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October 15, 1965

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics
Stanford University
Medical Center
Palo, Alto, California

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I recently attended a seminar-conference regarding the possibilities of landing an experimental laboratory in one of the craters of the moon to be used for periods of exploration from a few days to three months.

One of the questions that was directed to me and which I was unable to answer at that moment was whether any plans had been made for decontamination for the re-entry of personnel, experimental samples, and equipment into the earth's atmosphere and for the landing on earth.

I would greatly appreciate knowing if you know whether such information is available and could direct me to some publications regarding this matter.

Thanking you in advance, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

J. J. Wolken

Jerome J. Wolken
Professor of Biophysics
Head, Biophysical Research Laboratory
and Department of Biological Sciences

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There are some rather feeble plans for quarantine-inspection of Apollo-landing astronauts and their gear. I believe the Houston Center is also planning a "safe building" for primary containment of the first lunar return samples. Allan Brown at Penn has been most deeply involved in this and probably could point you to the latest